PATENT

DOCKET NO.: VTN-0572

Application No.: 10/051,992

Office Action Dated: June 10, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for detecting the presence or position of an ophthalmic

product in a sealed container, comprising:

(a) <u>a source</u> of electromagnetic energy located relative to the container to direct

electromagnetic energy at the sealed container, said sealed container comprising an attached

lidstock to contain the product, said lidstock comprising a reflective foil capable of reflecting

the electromagnetic energy;

(b) a non-imaging detector disposed relative to the <u>sealed</u> container and the source to

detect electromagnetic energy from the source which passes through or is reflected by the

reflective foil-product and the container; and

(c) a processor for determining the presence or position of the product in the <u>sealed</u>

container responsive to fluorescence, absorption or reflection of the electromagnetic energy

by the product.

2. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the product is a contact lens.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein the source emits electromagnetic

energy having a wavelength in the ultraviolet range.

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- 5. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the source emits pulsed electromagnetic energy having a wavelength in the ultraviolet range.
- 6. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein the source emits electromagnetic energy having a wavelength in the infrared range.
- 7. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein the contact lens contains an ultraviolet absorbing media which absorbs electromagnetic energy in the ultraviolet range.
- 8. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein said processor comprises a lookup table.
- 9. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 7, wherein said processor comprises a neural network algorithm.
- 10. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein the source emits electromagnetic energy in the visible range and said contact lens contains a tint.
- 11. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein the lens is a hygroscopic lens.
- 12. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein the lens includes a media which absorbs or reflects electromagnetic energy of a wavelength in a specified range, and the

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container includes a receptacle for the lens and is constructed from a material which absorbs or reflects the electromagnetic energy differently than the lens.

- 13. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein said lens includes a media which absorbs or reflects electromagnetic energy having a wavelength in a specified range and said detector is sensitive to electromagnetic radiation in the specified range.
- 14. (Original) An apparatus as defined in claim 2, further comprising a plurality of sources and a plurality of detectors disposed relative to each other for detecting the presence or position of a contact lens in a container.
- 15. (Currently amended) An apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said detector is a calorimeter colorimeter.
- 16. (Original) An apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said detector is a spectrometer.
- 17. (Original) The apparatus recited in claim 16, further comprising a filter.
- 18. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising one to one hundred detectors.
- 19. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising one to twenty detectors.

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20. (Currently amended) An apparatus for detecting the presence of an ophthalmic product in a scaled container comprising:

- (a) a source of electromagnetic energy located relative to the <u>sealed</u> container to direct electromagnetic energy at the <u>sealed</u> container, <u>said sealed container comprising an attached</u> lidstock to contain the product;
- (b) a reflective surface located such that the <u>sealed</u> container is displaced between the source and the reflective surface;
- (c) a detector disposed relative to the <u>sealed</u> container and the source to detect electromagnetic energy from the source which is reflected by the product, the container, and the reflective surface; and
- (d) a processor for determining the presence or position of the product in the <u>sealed</u> container responsive to the fluorescence, absorption or reflection of the electromagnetic energy by the product.
- 21. (Currently amended) A method for detecting the presence or position of an ophthalmic product in a <u>sealed</u> container, the product including a media which fluoresces, absorbs or reflects the electromagnetic energy of a frequency in a specified range, the method comprising:
- (a) directing, without imaging, electromagnetic energy at the product and the <u>sealed</u> container, <u>said sealed container comprising an attached lidstock to contain the product, said</u> lidstock comprising a reflective foil capable of reflecting the electromagnetic energy;

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(b) detecting the absence of or reduction in electromagnetic energy of a frequency in a specified range which passes through or is reflected by the reflective foil product and the container; and

- (c) processing the detected electromagnetic energy to determine the presence or position of the product in the container.
- 22. (Original) A method as defined in claim 21, wherein the electromagnetic radiation is in the ultraviolet range.
- 23. (Original) A method as defined in claim 21, wherein the electromagnetic radiation is in the infrared range.
- 24. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said electromagnetic radiation of said directing step is of a frequency in the specified range.